

Appl. No. 09/816,191  
Reply to Office action of May 20, 2004

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 2, line 18, please enter the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 1 schematically illustrates an address space 100 representing the memory resident in an exemplary remote network device, for example a television set top box. As shown in FIG. 1, address ~~base~~ space 100 includes a plurality of logically discrete memory sectors. For example, a first memory sector 102 may correspond to static memory (e.g., flash, ROM, or the like) and a memory sector 104 ~~which corresponds~~ may correspond to, for example, random access memory (RAM). Address ~~base~~ space 100 may also include one or more additional logical memory sectors, for example, a memory sector 106 corresponding to various input/output functions and protocols. In the context of the present invention, any number of memory sectors, corresponding to the various functions associated with the particular network appliance, may be employed.

Page 2, line 28, please enter the following replacement paragraph:

The secure software integrity verification technique of the present invention requires at least limited bi-directional communication between the host and the various network appliances connected to the host. In order for the host to confirm that a block of code resident in the client device has not been tampered with, the host performs a hash function on a copy of the code under inspection, which is maintained by the host. The host then transmits the hash function to the remote device whereupon the remote device performs the same hash function on the "same" block of code resident in the remote device. The remote device then transmits the resulting hash value back to the host, whereupon the host compares the initial hash value obtained by the host to the hash value received from the remote device. If the two hash values match, the host concludes that the block of code resident in the remote device corresponds to the copy of that same block of code maintained by the host. If, on the other hand, the two hash values do not match, the ~~hosts~~ host may conclude that the block of code resident in the remote device has been tampered with or otherwise corrupted.